

SECTION 711 — PLANTING ANNUALS, PERENNIALS, FALL PLANTED BULBS, AND ORNAMENTAL GRASSES

711.01 DESCRIPTION. This work shall consist of furnishing and planting annuals, perennials, fall planted bulbs, ornamental grasses, and all plant establishment operations to complete the work as specified in the Contract Documents or as directed by the Engineer.

711.01.01 Planting Schedule.

PLANTS	PLANTING DATES
Container Grown Summer Annuals	May 10 – June 1
Container Grown Winter Annuals	September 15 – October 15
Container Field Grown Perennials and Ornamental Grasses	April 15 – June 30 or September 1 – October 30
Fall Planted Bulbs	October 1 – November 30

711.01.02 Pesticide Application. Refer to 710.01.02.

711.02 MATERIALS.

Agricultural Limestone	920.02
Fertilizer	920.03
Shredded Hardwood Bark	920.05.01
Miscellaneous	920.08

711.03 CONSTRUCTION.

711.03.01 Storage and Handling. The Contractor shall provide adequate facilities for the protection, watering and temporary storage of all plant material.

711.03.02 Preparation for Planting.

- (a) **Layout.** The Contractor shall lay out the location of all beds in the field prior to performing any planting operations as approved by the Engineer.
- (b) **Planting Bed Preparation.** Two weeks prior to planting, all weeds and grass located within planting bed areas shall be eradicated using glyphosate with a wetting agent in conformance with the Maryland Pesticide Applicator's Law and the

manufacturer's recommendations. After the weeds have died, the planting bed areas shall be mowed to a height of 1 in. and the debris shall be removed prior to tilling as directed by the Engineer. Prior to rototilling, the following soil amendments shall be evenly spread over the planting bed:

- (1) 2 in. composted biosolids or other approved composted materials.
- (2) 15 lb/1000 ft² of 5-10-10 fertilizer.
- (3) The required amount of dolomitic agricultural limestone or other pH modifiers as determined by the Administration's Soil Tests Reports.

After spreading the soil amendments, the planting bed shall be rototilled to provide a depth of 6 in. of loose soil with a rototiller approved by the Engineer. Working soil in a wet or frozen condition is prohibited. After tilling, the planting bed shall be raked to provide an even planting surface and to remove debris and stones larger than 1 in. All debris shall be removed from the site and disposed of by the Contractor.

711.03.03 Planting. Plants shall not be installed until inspected as specified in 920.07.03. When planting in existing beds, the mulch and existing plants shall not be disturbed.

- (a) **Annuals and Perennials.** Prior to planting, plants shall be removed from pots without damaging plants. Annuals and perennials shall be planted through premulched cultivated beds with the mulch carefully pulled back and replaced to avoid mixing soil and mulch. When planted, the top of the root mass shall be at ground level and the plant shall be in a vertical position.
- (b) **Fall Planted Bulbs.** Prior to planting, all annuals shall be removed. Fall planted bulbs shall be planted at the depth recommended by the supplier for each specified variety of bulb. Bulbs shall be carefully handled to avoid bruising.
- (c) **Initial Watering.** Plants shall be watered immediately after planting and as required until the plants roots have knitted into the planting bed soil. The waterings shall provide full and thorough saturation of the soil in the planting bed. A sprinkler or breaker nozzle shall be used to prevent damage to the plants and disturbance of mulch during the watering operation.

- (d) **Fertilizing.** After the initial watering, a water soluble 20-20-20 fertilizer shall be applied to each plant as specified in the manufacturer's recommendations.
- (e) **Mulching.**
 - (1) **Annuals and Perennials.** Prior to planting, a 1-1/2 in. layer of shredded hardwood bark mulch shall be spread over the prepared planting bed. After planting, an additional 1/2 in. shall be evenly spread over the bed.
 - (2) **Fall Planted Bulbs.** After planting, a 2 in. layer of shredded hardwood bark mulch shall be spread over the planting bed.
 - (3) **Edging.** Upon completion of planting, mulch beds shall be neatly edged to a depth of 3 in. with a vertical cut, tapered back to the area to be mulched.
- (f) **Refertilization.** Refertilization shall conform to 710.03.06(b)(4).

711.03.04 Plant Care During Construction. Plant care shall begin immediately after each plant is installed and shall continue through the landscape Construction Phase and as specified in 711.03.05.

711.03.05 Plant Establishment. Plant establishment shall conform to 710.03.06 modified as follows:

- (a) After the initial watering has been completed, plants shall be watered as required at the rate of 60 gal/100 ft² of planting bed. This amount of watering is equivalent to 1 in. of rainfall.
- (b) During the normal growing season, annuals that die shall be replaced immediately when directed by the Engineer.
- (c) Annuals shall be removed after they have declined in the late summer or fall. The dead leaves and flower stems of most perennials shall be removed in the fall. The leaves and flower stems of fall planted bulbs shall be removed in the summer after they have died back. All removal and maintenance of plants shall be as directed by the Engineer.

711.04 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT.

711.04.01 Installation of annuals, perennials, fall planted bulbs, and ornamental grasses will be measured and paid for at the Contract unit price per each item as specified in the Contract Documents. The payment will be full compensation for all plants, bulbs, initial waterings,

fertilizing, replacements, seasonal maintenance, and for all material, labor, equipment, tools, and incidentals necessary to complete the work. If at any time during the Contract period any plants become unacceptable, they shall be replaced at no additional cost to the Administration.

711.04.02 Mulching. Shredded Hardwood Bark Mulch within the planting beds will be measured and paid for at the Contract unit price per square yard. The measurement will be computed on the surface area of the specified thickness before settling or as directed by the Engineer. The payment will be full compensation for all mulch, material, labor, equipment, tools, and incidentals necessary to complete the work.

711.04.03 Additional Watering of Plants. Additional Watering of Plants will be measured and paid for at the Contract unit price per 1000 gallons of water applied to the planting beds. Water will be measured as specified in 708.04.02.

711.04.04 Plant Refertilization. Plant Refertilization will be measured and paid for at the Contract unit price per 1000 gallons of liquid fertilizer mixture applied to the plant beds in conformance with 711.04.03. The payment will be full compensation for furnishing fertilizer, water, and for all material, labor, equipment, tools, and incidentals necessary to complete the work.

SECTION 712 — SELECTIVE TREE TRIMMING

712.01 DESCRIPTION. This work shall consist of selective tree trimming as specified in the Contract Documents or as directed by the Engineer and in conformance with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Roadside Tree Law.

712.02 MATERIALS.

Tree Wound Dressing

920.08.20

712.03 CONSTRUCTION.

712.03.01 Equipment. All pruning tools used shall conform to the accepted arboricultural practices and as approved by the Engineer.

712.03.02 Operation. All work shall be performed by personnel under the supervision of a Maryland Licensed Tree Expert. A Roadside Tree Care Permit shall be obtained from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources prior to performing any tree pruning.